# Meeting Minutes Central WUCC Meeting #20 MDC Training Center – 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT January 17, 2018 1:30 p.m.

The Central Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) met on January 17, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the MDC Training Center at 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, Connecticut. Notice of the meeting was sent to WUCC members and posted on the DPH website <a href="http://www.ct.gov/dph">http://www.ct.gov/dph</a>.

The following WUCC member representatives were in attendance (listed in alphabetic order of affiliation):

WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Kenneth Skov	Aquarion Water Company
Mary Ellen Kowalewski	Capitol Region Council of Governments
David Radka	Connecticut Water Company
Jim Ventres	Town of East Haddam
Brendan Avery	Hazardville Water Company
Jonathan Avery	Hazardville Water Company
Patrick Kearney	Town of Manchester
Peter Hughes	Town of Marlborough
David Banker	Metropolitan District Commission
R. Bartley Halloran	Metropolitan District Commission
John Mirtle	Metropolitan District Commission
David Kuzminski	Town of Portland
Tiffany Lufkin	Regional Water Authority
Eugene Koss	Tolland Water

The following non-WUCC member representatives were in attendance (listed in alphabetic order of affiliation):

Non-WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Corinne Fitting	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Doug Hoskins	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Rich lozzo	CT Department of Public Health
Eric McPhee	CT Department of Public Health
Jeanine Gouin	Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
Judy Allen	Save Our Water - CT

The following actions took place:

#### 1. Welcome & Roll Call

 The meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM by Co-chair David Radka of the Connecticut Water Company. A roll call was conducted in which everyone stated their name and affiliation.

### 2. Approval of December Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the December meeting were unanimously approved. Jon Avery from the
Hazardville Water Company, Bart Halloran from the MDC, Peter Hughes from Marlborough, and
Eugene Koss from Tolland abstained from voting, as they were not present at the December
meeting.

# 3. Review of Formal Correspondence

The following correspondence was logged subsequent to the December meeting of the Central WUCC:

• December 20, 2017 – The Department of Public Health sent a letter to City of Middletown informing them of well use approval for a TNC system called Forest City Farms.

### 4. Review and Discuss Integrated Report Sections

• Ms. Gouin stated that the goal is to release the Integrated Report by February 21<sup>st</sup> according to the current WUCC schedule.

## • Planning and Regulations

 Jeanine Gouin from Milone & MacBroom, Inc. presented an overview of planning periods, regulatory requirements, and topics under the umbrella of coordination of planning throughout the region.

#### Drought Planning and Response

- Mr. Radka stated the Water Resources Committee of the CT Section was reviewing drought response and would likely recommend that utilities consider utilizing 5-stages of drought triggers, as had been past practice. This would also require that utilities reassess drought trigger levels to ensure they are properly set for each water system with regard to risk, ability of customers to respond, etc..
- Ms. Gouin stated that the Water Planning council was actively reviewing the updated state drought plan. The WUCC will defer to the recommendations of the council on this issue.
- David Kuzminski from the town of Portland stated the sustainability committee is also investigating new methods and how they fit in with different water supply plans.
- Tiffany Lufkin from the Regional Water Authority stated a more robust system for drought planning in the water supply plan would be useful. There are many new

methods of water usage tracking instead of just the unaccounted for water method that could be investigated.

- Mr. Radka stated that it is important for there to be consistency between all three WUCCs around this issue.
- Ms. Gouin stated the draft narrative includes potential WUCC recommendations, including seasonal surcharges and innovative billing methods within it. The WUCC can decide to recommend these methods or not.
- Eric McPhee from the CT Department of Public Health stated that conservation should be separated from drought response within the Integrated Report.
- Eugene Koss from the town of Tolland stated that it can be frustrating to see methods applied in one area of the state, but not in another. An example he used was the declining block rate structure in the town of Tolland where most towns have a flat or inclining block rate structure. He also emphasized there are some outdated regulation requirements such as requiring systems to supply toilet dams to customers when they won't fit most modern toilets anyway.

# Impacts of Policies and Regulations

- Ms. Gouin stated the new available supply calculations can cause problems at some systems that did not have a problem with the previous method of calculation.
- Mr. Radka stated that the WUCC should recommend going back to the old way of calculating available supply because the new way can create a host of problems on paper that may not be problems in the real world.
- Mr. McPhee stated that he would be ok with the recommendation as long as accurate numbers are being represented for systems.

## Climate Change and Resiliency

 Ms. Gouin went through the recommendations from the WUCC for Climate change and Resiliency measures.

#### Average Daily Demand (ADD) Projections

- Ms. Gouin stated that 4 systems are projected to have an available water deficit on paper. She continued that all 4 systems have identified the reasons for these deficits:
  - 1) Aquarion Water Company has a small system that they have taken over which has a host of issues, but they are in the process of fixing these problems.
  - 2) A small apartment complex called Cedar Ridge Apartments has a small deficit, but the usage number is likely very conservative.
  - 3) Connecticut Water Company has a small system that is a consecutive system which buys water from MDC. This is a paper problem and not a real lack of water problem.

 4) Woodhaven Apartments has a small deficit likely because of a conservative number for usage.

# • Maximum Month Average Daily Demands Projections

- Ms. Gouin stated that an average of all systems in the central region yields a peaking factor of 1.4 for the region. She further stated that the deficits are mostly for 50-year projections and there are not too many deficits. The main system with a large deficit is the Regional Water Authority.
- Ms. Lufkin stated the deficits for Regional are mostly based on conservatively high population growth and water usage projections. Their Water Supply Plan from 2009 projected roughly 10 MGD higher demand in 2017 than the actual usage was. She further stated there is close to 45 MGD additional supply that is currently inactive which can be activated if demand increases.
- Ms. Gouin encouraged all systems to supply updated information since the Integrated Report will use whatever data is available. In some cases the data used can go back to 2005.

#### • Streamflow Regulations Impact

Ms. Gouin presented the various assumptions that were used relative to the impact of streamflow regulations on safe yield and available supply. The most significant reductions are projected to occur with those systems that heavily rely on reservoirs. System specific impacts will need to be further refined as more modeling data become available, however, in the absence of such data, reasonable estimates are being made for planning purposes based on modeling done to date.

#### Small System's Viability

- Ms. Gouin stated an important factor for the Integrated Report is to identify the systems that can be consolidated into larger systems.
- Mr. Radka asked if there is progress in developing regulations for NTNC and TNC systems from DPH.
  - Mr. McPhee stated there are currently regulations drafted, but they have not been put into law. He further stated there are other checks to ensure systems are built to adequate specifications.
- Ms. Gouin stated that small systems' access to grants and resiliency should be a focus moving forward. Communication between town planners and small systems can be improved as well.

#### 5. Next Steps and Timeline

• Ms. Gouin stated the projected schedule for the Integrated Report process going forward. The WUCC voted to move the April meeting to the 24<sup>th</sup>.

# 6. Public Comment

• There was no public comment.

# 7. Other Business

• The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Brendan Avery, Recording Secretary – Central WUCC